



ERIE COUNTY

PROMOTIONAL EXAM

Please refer to our internet address at: www.erie.gov

A NON-REFUNDABLE \$30.00 PROCESSING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION
(CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – PAYABLE TO: ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL)

POLICE SERGEANT

NO. 71-580

TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA

\$70,273 (T. Cheektowaga)

TOWN OF EDEN

\$65,000 (T. Eden)

THIS EXAMINATION IS OPEN TO ALL QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA AND THE TOWN OF EDEN. The eligible list resulting from this examination will be used to fill future vacancies in the Town of Cheektowaga and one anticipated vacancy in the Town of Eden. Successful candidates will be considered for appointment only in the police department in which they were employed at the time of the written test.

The eligible list resulting from this examination will have a maximum duration of two years and, when established, will supersede Eligible List #77-839.

QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE FOR TAKING THE TEST: Candidates must be permanently employed in the competitive class and must be serving and have served continuously on a permanent or contingent permanent basis in the competitive class for 24 months immediately preceding the date of the written test as a Police Officer.

Persons who are currently employed under Section 55a, New York State Civil Service Law, and who meet all the above eligibility requirements in the non-competitive rather than competitive class may compete in this examination.

DUTIES: A *Police Sergeant* coordinates the functions and activities of a Platoon within the Police Department/Division; enforces the rules, regulations, policies and procedures of the Police Department; maintains strict discipline and takes appropriate action on the discovery of any error, violations, misconduct or neglect of duty by a subordinate; ensures the civil rights and integrity of all activities within their Platoon with regard to due process of Law and Departmental Policy and Procedure; assists in annual performance appraisals on immediate subordinates; recommends and implements changes designed to increase effectiveness of the platoon; provides formal orientation to all newly hired or transferred subordinates; assists in conducting supervisory investigations when assigned by superiors; manages programs as assigned by their superiors; trains, directs, supervises and evaluates subordinate staff in their assigned duties; communicates all orders, information and instructions to subordinates in a timely fashion. If assigned to the Information, Technology And Finance Division is also responsible for review and proper disposition of police department records; oversees and ensures the privacy of sensitive records and information dictated by Federal, State, County and local laws, rules or regulations, in conjunction with the Central Records Security Officer; supervises civilian personnel as required.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION: A written test designed to evaluate knowledge, skills and /or abilities in the following areas:

1. **LAW ENFORCEMENT METHODS & PRACTICES:** These questions test for knowledge of accepted police methods and practices and/or their application to situations in the police field. The questions are a sampling of the various knowledge that police personnel may be required to possess in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities. (continued)

VETERANS: PROOF OF SERVICE MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE LIST IS ESTABLISHED
TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL POINTS. (See application for more information.)

NOTICES TO APPEAR FOR THE EXAMINATION ARE MAILED APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EXAMINATION DATE
NO CELL PHONES ARE PERMITTED AT THE EXAM SITE.

EXAMINATION DATE

JUNE 1, 2013

SEE REVERSE
SIDE

APPLICATIONS MUST BE
POSTMARKED BY

MAY 1, 2013

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION: (continued)

2. **NEW YORK STATE LAWS:** These questions test for knowledge of the laws in effect on January 1, 2013 that law enforcement personnel may encounter in the course of their day-to-day work-related activities. The questions are a sampling of job-related sections of the Penal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Family Court Act and other laws relevant to law enforcement in New York State.
3. **SUPERVISION:** These questions test for knowledge of the principles and practices employed in planning, organizing, and controlling the activities of a work unit toward predetermined objectives. The concepts covered, usually in a situational question format, include such topics as assigning and reviewing work; evaluating performance; maintaining work standards; motivating and developing subordinates; implementing procedural change; increasing efficiency; and dealing with problems of absenteeism, morale, and discipline.
4. **UNDERSTANDING & INTERPRETING WRITTEN MATERIAL:** These questions test how well you comprehend written material. You will be provided with brief reading selections and will be asked questions about the selections. All the information required to answer the questions will be presented in the selections; you will not be required to have any special knowledge relating to the subject areas of the selections.
5. **PREPARING WRITTEN MATERIAL IN A POLICE SETTING:** These questions test for the ability to prepare the types of reports that police personnel write. Some questions test for the ability to present information clearly and accurately. They consist of restatements of information given in note form. You must choose the best version from each set of four choices. Other questions test for the ability to organize paragraphs. They consist of paragraphs with their sentences out of order. For each of the paragraphs you must choose, from four suggestions, the best order of the sentences.

A Guide for the Written Test for Police Supervisors/Investigators is available at the New York State website: www.cs.ny.gov/testing/localtestguides.cfm. Candidates not having access to a computer or the internet may request copy of the test guide from the municipal civil service office conducting this examination using the contact information found elsewhere on this announcement. Call 716-858-8484 or write to the Erie County Department of Personnel, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY 14202 to obtain a copy.

The final rating key for this examination will be established by the State Civil Service Commission prior to the testing date, upon recommendation of a committee of police experts who will review all the questions for appropriateness and accuracy. There will be no review of the questions by candidates. The committee was selected with the assistance and endorsement of the Police Conference of New York, Inc., the New York State Association of PBAs, Inc., and the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: Use of calculators is **prohibited** on this examination. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal Digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", or any similar devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES WHO ARE ALSO TAKING ANOTHER CIVIL SERVICE EXAM(S) ON THIS DATE (See Below)
(IF YOU ARE TAKING 2 OR MORE ERIE COUNTY EXAMS ON THIS DATE IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO CALL)**

INFORMATION FOR PROMOTION CANDIDATES

Unless otherwise indicated, the eligible list resulting from this examination will have a duration of four years and will not supersede existing promotional lists, if any.
RATINGS REQUIRED: Test is rated on a scale of 100 with a passing mark at 70. Test instructions may further divide the tests into parts and set minimum standards for each part. Points will be added to scores of candidates who achieve a passing mark as follows:

Seniority: For each year of service in the classified service:
Less than 1 year.....0 points
1 year up to 6 years.....1 point
Over 6 years up to 11 years.....2 points
Over 11 years up to 16 years.....3 points
Over 16 years up to 21 years.....4 points
Over 21 years.....5 points

VETERANS: Disabled and non-disabled veterans as defined in Section 85, New York State Civil Service Law, will have 5 and 2.5 points, respectively added to their earned scores if successful in the examination. You must claim these credits when you file application but you have an option to waive them any time prior to appointment. If you have already used these credits for a permanent position in NYS, you may not claim them again.

In conformance with section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, **CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY** shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. If you are qualified to participate in this examination and are a child of a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty in this municipality, please inform this office of this matter when you submit your application for examination. A candidate claiming such credit has a minimum of two months from the application deadline to provide the necessary documentation to verify additional credit eligibility. However, no credit may be added after the eligible list has been established.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than two weeks before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. **For this exam, please complete and submit an Erie County EXAMS CROSS-FILER Form with your Erie County exam application to alert Erie County Civil Service about your additional exams being held at other locations on the same day.** The Cross-Filer Form is found online at: www2.erie.gov/employment/index.php?q=applications or call (716) 858-8484. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations.

MILITARY STATUS: Active duty military personnel may file an application for this exam. A special military make-up examination will be conducted for any member of the armed forces of the United States who has duly filed a timely application but who was deprived of the opportunity to compete in the scheduled exam due to active military duty. Special conditions apply to these requests and may be reviewed at the Erie County Department of Personnel.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Notice to appear for the test will be conditional as review of application for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call or write this Department if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the test. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Applicants whose religious beliefs prevent their taking examinations before sundown on Saturday and physically handicapped candidates who require special examination facilities should so inform the Erie County Department of Personnel, by a separately mailed letter at the earliest possible date before the test.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: If a subject of the examination, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidates are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application subject to verification. If this examination includes a qualifying written test, candidates admitted to the test will have conditional approval only. Final decision regarding the qualifications of candidates rests with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXAMINATION: You may take the examination if you meet the following requirements: (a) Meet the qualifications as printed in the announcement; (b) You have been separated from the service and permanently reemployed within one year, (c) your name is on a preferred eligible list.

NOTICE: Any person, otherwise meeting the requirements for an examination, who is laid off from any agency for which the examination is being held, and whose name is presently on a preferred list is eligible to compete in the examination. When completing their applications such persons should be title and location of their last permanent Civil Service employment.

APPLICATION FORMS: You may obtain these forms in person at the Erie County Personnel Department, Rath County Office Building, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo. Forms are also available in the libraries and at Town, Village and School District administrative offices.

****IMPORTANT APPLICATION FEE – READ CAREFULLY****

A \$30 filing fee is required for this exam. The required fee must accompany your application. Send or bring check or money order made payable to Erie County Personnel Department and write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. Do not send or bring cash, as the County cannot be responsible for cash payment. As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

This examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service, and held in compliance with the New York State Civil Service Law and the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Civil Service.